THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) The Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1979 was based on the Drug Policy, 1978 which had been approved at the appropriate level.

(b) All required approvals shall be obtained.

Agitation in Assam against the Oil Chairman

2588. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agitation was going on on behalf of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) demanding the removal of the Chairman of the public sector firm, Oil India Limited and what were the reasons for the agitation.

(b) whether Government have verified the allegations made against the Chairman and what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether Government are aware that such chauvinistic attitude in various States like Assam and Bombay are to be thwarted to create a sense of security in the minds of the public sector officers and whether Government would take necessary steps to inculcate national awareness amongst the people there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) AASU were demanding removal of the Chairman O.I.L. based on certain allegations, which are being examined.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Captive Power Plants

2589. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:
SHRI ADINARAYAN REDDY:
SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy regarding the installation of captive Power Plants;

(b) what is the existing capacity of Captive Power Plants;

(c) whether there is any possibility of increasing their efficiency and also the low cost fuels;

(d) whether licences are issued for import of these diesel generating sets; and

(e) if so, what is the power range in which import is allowed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Permission to instal captive plants is accorded where the requirement of power is substantial and continuous and reliable power supply is necessary. The State Electricity Boards are empowered to accord such permission if the capacity is upto 25 MW; consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary in cases where the proposed capacity is more than 25 MW. The existing capacity of captive power plants in the private sector is about 4000 MW.

(c) Higher efficiencies can be achieved if the captive power plants operate in cogeneration mode. Low cost fuels are in use for diesel generating (DG) sets.

(d) and (e) Under the Import Policy, DG sets of ratings above 1000 KVA are allowed to be imported Applications for DG sets in the range from above 500 KVA to 1000 KVA are also considered on merits depending upon the delivery schedule from

indigenous sources. Import of DG sets upto 500 KVA is not allowed.

Import of Rifampicin

2590. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what public purpose has been served by refusing to register imports of Rifampicin under Open General Licence of the Import Trade Control Policy;

(b) what was the purpose of keeping zero rate of customs duty on the bulk drug as well as the intermediate if the registration for import was to be stopped; and

(c) which provision of the Drug Policy or the Import Trade Control Policy authorises or provides competency to refuse registration for import of bulk drug and what are the reasons for getting the policy amended after a lapse of one and a half years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The matter is sub-judice and is pending in the Delhi High Court.

Hearing of Drug Companies by Ministry

2591. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 67 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July 1987 and state:

(a) what was the date on which the Supreme Court gave judgement on drug prices

(b) when did his Ministry give a hearing to each drug company along with the date and name of the company,

(c) when was the representation of each company disposed of along with the details of decision taken in each case;

(d) whether it is a fcat that drug companies did not deposit the difference in Drugs Prices Equalisation Account within eight weeks as per the judgement;

(e) if so, what action has been taken against the drug companies in accordance with the Essential Commodies Act;

(f) by when prices as fixed will be implemented by the drug companies;

(g) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had remarked that price control is for the benefit of the consumers and not the producers; and

(h) if so, why his Ministry is taking action against the consumer's interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court delivered judgement on 10th April, 1987 in the case of M/s. Cyanamide (India) Ltd. and on 1st May, 1987 in other cases. The names of the concerned companies alongwith their dates of hearing are given in the attached statement. (See below). Further action in all cases has been taken as per due process of Law.

(d) and (e) Necessary action to recover the difference in prices has been taken as per due process of Law.

(f) All State Drug Controllers have been directed to ensure implementation of the prices fixed by the Government for concerned bulk drugs and formulations.

(g) Yes, Sir.